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VOLUME XXXVIII.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1863.

LOUISVILLE JOURNAL

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Geo. D. PRENTICE, *Editor.*

John L. KIRBY, *Chief Local.*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1863.

MISSISSIPPI LEVELS.—A week or two ago, as our readers may remember, we announced that Colonel Major Meriwether and Major Andrew Jackson Donelson, of Memphis, were about to go to Washington, to urge upon the general government an appropriation for the repair of the Mississippi levees or the construction of new ones, and we very warmly commended the action. Yesterday we understand, these gentlemen were in our city, on the way to Washington, for which they left yesterday evening. During their brief stay here, they laid the object of their mission before our Board of Trade, which promptly adopted resolutions approving the object. The resolutions will be found in our commercial column. We commend them to the attention of the public in general and of the Kentucky Congressmen in particular. The resolutions undoubtedly express the sentiments of our people. We shall recur to the subject.

THE governments of ten States of the Union have been abolished. Five military despotisms are set up in their place. One military despotism, if the action of the House of Representatives be sustained, will soon supersede the five. And the coming despotism, the United despotism, is to extend over the President, over the Supreme Court, and over even Congress itself. The people of the ten excluded States have no civil rights whatever, except within Gen. Hancock's district. They do not enjoy the right of life, liberty, or property, all these being subject to the arbitrary will of the several despot. Severe penalties are denounced by Congress against the President if he shall attempt to interfere, and the Supreme Court is to be rendered powerless to lift a finger in defense of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress, which proposes to make General Grant supreme, asserts, for the present, its own supremacy. It denies the right of the two other departments of the government or of any other power to restrain or modify its action in any particular. It claims to be high over all things, like Jupiter over the rest of the heathen gods. It assumes that it has a free charter to do what it pleases, snapshoted but by God. If even by Him, will the nation tolerate the assertion and the practice of such monstrous claims and pretensions? Where a distinct and unequivocal provision of the Constitution and a law of Congress apply to one and the same case and are at direct variance, which is to prevail, the constitutional provision or the Congressional law? The Constitution imposes distinct and well-defined limitations upon Congress, circumscribing its actions within certain bounds, and enunciating what it may and what it shall not do, but where is the sense and what is the use of such a constitutional provision if Congress itself and all the last resort can decide upon its own prerogatives, Constitution or no Constitution, unchecked by any power or power that have hitherto been supposed to exist in the land? Is Congress a body of absolutely unlimited power or not, and, if not, where does the necessary check lie?

We awoke this morning to sweeping over our country. Each follows in quick succession that preceded it. The billows are dashing against every rock and hill and mountain. Their thunderous roar is upon all the winds. Let the people accuse themselves as if a trumpet-call to battle were in their ears, or they will be forever overwhelmed.

There is a proposition in the Senate to abolish secret and special agents in the Department of State. The custom of employing such agents has existed as long as the government. It is the practice, and held to be an indispensable practice, of all the civilized governments of the world, and no doubt of the uncivilized ones. Secret agents were employed under Washington, the elder Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, J. Q. Adams, Jackson, Van Buren, Taylor, Polk, Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, and Lincoln, and no Congress was ever so far-sighted and unpartisan as to make objections to the practice or to withhold the appropriations required for its continuance and its efficiency. Members of Congress of one party always voted to make the requisite appropriations to be used by Presidents of the other party. Mr. Seward said in a recent letter to Mr. Sumner on the subject:

The occasion for such agents cannot be anticipated. They often depend upon emoluments and favors, and are apt to require an appointment not too prompt, but one where the fact of the appointment, and the name of the person appointed, must not be known to be expected.

The employment of secret service agents is probably more important at this time than it ever was before except during the war, when the appropriations for the employment of them were properly very large. And the complications and dangers and national controversies, that now threaten us, indicate that this is no time for the abolishment of the secret service. Confidential agents must be had, or we shall be placed at great disadvantage in our relations with foreign governments. These governments send agents to spy out what they can in the United States, and shall not now, as we have always done, guard and protect ourselves by similar means?

The advocates of General Grant are not afraid to meet the issue upon a fair and frank challenge. The proposition which may be raised in the approaching canvass. They do not desire to elect their candidate solely upon the basis of Fort Donelson, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and Atlanta Court-house. —*Pittsburg Chronicle.*

Why do you omit Belmont, the first day at Shiloh before Buell had come up, and the disastrous march, full of terrible defeats, from Washington to City Point? Do you propose to elect your candidate upon them?

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vented him.

THAT QUESTION OF VERACITY IN HIGH PLACES.—On the part of some of the radical journals there is an effort to produce the impression that President Johnson's statement of his conversation with Grant is not supported by two of the five members of the Cabinet who were present and who have stated what was said. This effort can hardly be sincere; though, if it were successful, it would be useless, for even these journals admit that the President's statement is supported by three of the five members, which in the public estimation is quite enough for the purpose. But the effort is so plainly in the teeth of the facts that it can hardly be sincere.

For what are the facts? Let us see.

The President, in his letter of the 31st of January, said to Grant:

In the presence of the Cabinet I asked you:

First, if in a conversation which took place, shortly after your appointment as General in Chief, you had agreed to remain at the head of the War Department, and abide any judicial proceedings that might follow non-concurrence by the Senate in Mr. Stanton's nomination. You replied that you had agreed to remain in such a controversy, to be in the same position with respect to the office as I occupied previous to your appointment, by returning it to me to nominate to anticipate such action by the Senate.

This you admitted.

Second, I then asked you if at our conference on the preceding Saturday I had not understood that we were to have another conference on Monday, before final action by the Senate in the case of Mr. Stanton. You replied that you had agreed to remain at the head of the War Department, and that you had not understood that the action of the Senate would act so soon; that on Monday you had been engaged in a conference with General Sherman, and were occupied with General Sherman, and were occupied with many little matters, and asked it of General Sherman that the question of

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They do not enjoy the right of life,

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TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

EVENING DISPATCHES.

LATER FROM JAPAN.

Further Particulars of the Palace Burned—Four Hundred Men Burned to Death—Between the Religions—One Thousand Lives Lost by a Powder Explosion.

New York, Feb. 17.

The Herald has additional advices from Japan via San Francisco, which contain the following: One of the Shogun's palaces at Jeddō was burned down by Samurais, who were in the service of the Emperor. There was a severe fight, and the official report gives 300 killed and wounded of Satsuma's men and 60 of the Government troops.

The Japanese parties afterward had a naval engagement in sight of Yokohama, when Satsuma's vessels escaped. Satsuma, Cochinchin, and Tonkin have surrendered. Osaka, with their troops. The Tycoon's and Satsuma's forces are now concentrated at Jeddō. Satsuma's palace was burned on the night of January 20th, and four hundred men were burned in it. The native town was on fire in four places on the night of January 21st, and was fortunately extinguished, but with serious damage. Foreigners have been ordered from their Consuls not to go outside the settlement.

There was terrible mortality among the forces at Hsiao, twenty-four having died in as many days. Everything is quiet at Osaka.

SHANGHAI, Jan. 17.

The Yellow river has again burst its banks. Nothing but foreign engineers will restore them to their ancient so-litude.

An explosion occurred at Wuchang opposite Hankow, in which three magazines and not less than one thousand lives were lost. No harm was done to European property.

The latest news received here, respecting the Chinese rebellion, is to the effect that the Imperialists have gained many victories over the Nien-poo and Moham-mudans. It is rumored that a Mandarin has offered to erect and work the telegraph from Shanghai to Wusung. If this be true he will unconsciously give material aid to the East India Telegraph Company.

AFRICA.

Progress of the British Abyssinian Expedition—Probabilities of a speedy Battle—Troops Suffering on Account of Heat—Expedition Contingent near Magdala.

London, Feb. 17.

The advice from headquarters of the British army in Abyssinia state that King Theodore in his camp near the palace of Magdala, where the English captives are confined.

The Abyssinian monarch is said to be in a bad strait in a military point of view. An army composed of 10,000 men is imminent, and may take place at any moment. Few of the disabled native chiefs have acknowledged any fealty to Theodore. The chief Kaiser, ruler of the Tyrrhenian Nation, Gen. Napier, from that chief, whose political character is bad, aims at making a secret attack on him, and consequently aims to effect a treacherous alliance with him so as to hold him answerable for his actions.

Thirty thousand British troops of all classes have landed at Zula, and the advance of Queen's army has reached within two or three miles of Addis Ababa. They are now marching south along where it is very probable the expected battle will take place. The Egyptians, with a contingent embracing many Turks, are very near to Magdala, where they use no caution, and are marching in a regular manner without the sanction of the superior officers of the English army. The English in the interior number about twenty thousand. The troops suffered considerably from the heat of the weather.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Terrible Ravages of Cholera in Buenos Ayres—The People Flying in All Directions.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.

The steamer Santiago de Cuba, from Liverpool, being Panama, dates to the 21st. The United States steamship with General Prado, ex-president of Peru aboard, had arrived at Coquimbo, en route to Valparaiso.

Cholera was raging terribly in Buenos Ayres, there being 150 to 180 victims daily. The citizens were flying from the city. At Villa Nueva 10 out of 270 laborers on the railroad had died almost at once, and people were flying in all directions.

ALABAMA.

The Constitution Reported Carried.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 17.

A special to the Press says unusual returns from all but two counties in Alabama indicate that 81,000 votes were cast at the polls, and that the people, to ratify the Constitution and elect the state officers.

DEATH OF ONE OF THE JAPANESE TROOPES.—The New York Tribune, of Monday, says:

On Saturday evening Ya-Ha-Ta-Kee, the chief of the Japanese troupe, last performing at the Academy of Music in this city, died rather unexpectedly at his residence, No. 20 Bleecker street. The deceased arrived in this city at the close of last year, having come with his mother, aged 52 years, his wife, two sisters, three children, respectively four, five, and six years, and a corps of performers. The first public act of Ya-Ha-Ta-Kee was to present a sword to a Japanese who had a sword with him, whom he informed which his honor was worn only by the highest officials.

The performances of the troupe were not well received, and the director pecuniarily, the troupe, the manager, and the manager and the troupe great concern, and the latter as well as the former looked up to him as a guide and protector. What disposition will be made of the surviving members of the troupe, has not been determined, but it is supposed that they will be provided for and returned to Yokohama, whence they came to this country by the Japan and San Francisco steamship line.

THE BOTTOM RAIL GETTING UNDER.—It is with regret that we note the misfortune which is rapidly losing the great majority that enabled the Convention to prevail at the late election. Not a train passes up the Mobile and Ohio Railroad but bears many of them to Tennessee and Alabama, and the steamer is leaving the counties on the Mississippi river by every steamer passing up, to Missouri, Illinois and other of the States of the great West. We wish the departing steamer to all people to go in their homes, and congratulate our people upon their loss. Those who profess to know inform us that the decrease in Mobile since the middle of November is not less than 100,000, and that we can spare as many more, and then have as many left as we desire.—Aberdeen, Miss., Examiner.

An English newspaper says that this is a paper age. People eat paper, drink paper, talk paper, make their fortunes on paper, and, in consequence, occasionally get them. The paper, the Court, and there is no reason why they should not paper. But a paper foundation is unstable when the decade of adversity comes.

Thirty editors and forty-five reporters were arrested in New York last year. The articles and items of complaint are not given.

RIVER NEWS.

PORT OF LOUISVILLE.

REVIEW OF THE MARKETS.

BOATS LEAVING TO-DAY.

For Cincinnati—AMERICA, 17 P. M.
For New Orleans—FRANK PARROD, 3 P. M.
For New Orleans—JNO. KILGOUR, 5 P. M.
For New Orleans—J. P. M.
For Henderson—TARASCON, 4 P. M.
For Madison—DOVE NO. 2, 1 P. M.
For Madison—MOLLIE GRATZ, 1 P. M.
For Louisville—JOHN STANLEY, 3 P. M.

ARRIVALS YESTERDAY.

United States, C. T. TARASCON, Henderson, Memphis, 1 P. M.
DOVE NO. 2, 1 P. M.

BOATS IN PORT.

CITY WHARF—AMERICA, Berne, Palestine, and Temple—FRANK PARROD, TARASCON, JNO. KILGOUR, Memphis, 1 P. M.
DOVE NO. 2, 1 P. M.

THE RIVER.

The river is declining slowly, with seven feet five inches water in the channel yesterday by the mark, and five feet five inches steamboat water in the pass over the falls.

The weather yesterday was exceedingly pleasant and spring-like. The thermometer ranged at 45° at noon.

Business on the wharf was only moderately active. The Tempest arrived from White river with a large cargo.

DETACHES.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 17.—Noon.
Four feet five inches water in the channel and falling slowly. Weather cloudy. Thermometer 40 degrees.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 17.—M.
Weather cloudy, with a light rain. River 48 degrees. River rising slowly with nine feet and a half feet by the Water Works and 82 feet under the bridge. Arrived—Alice V. and Mary Davage.

PORTS.

By a special dispatch from Capt. McGill we learn that the Belle Lee left Memphis yesterday morning and will be in port next Wednesday and leave next Thursday evening.

The John Kilgour, Capt. Benson, arrived in port yesterday morning and has his bills up for New Orleans this evening.

The Frank Pargoud is expected to start to New Orleans this evening on her first trip. The following are her dimensions: Length, 245 feet; beam, 41 feet; hold, 9 feet; cylinder, 32 inches, with 9 feet stroke; 7 boilers, 28 feet each and 38 inches in diameter.

We are under obligations to Elliott Miller, clerk of steamer Indiana, Al. D. Croxton, clerk of Cora S., and O. Hewitt and Ben May, clerks of the steamer Tempest, for copies of manifest.

The Palestine is at the city wharf, and advertised to leave this evening for Nashville.

The Tarascon is in port, and leaves for Owensboro and Henderson this evening as the regular mail packet.

The Indiana and Falls City were due last night, and will undoubtedly be found in port this morning. Both leave again next Wednesday evening.

The Tempest came up to the city wharf yesterday.

The "automatic fireman" in the Major Anderson was put in motion yesterday, and worked admirably. Unfortunately an iron spike was thrown in the hopper or feed box, while being filled with coal, and was carried down into the screw that works the coal up into the firebox, causing the thread of the screw to break, and it ceased feeding. New pieces were being put in yesterday, and the Major Anderson is expected to leave port next Thursday and will probably go as far as Cincinnati, in order to give the new machine a trial.

Some of the machinery presents a rather awkward appearance, and needs improvement.

The Cora S. has her bills up for Memphis this evening.

The Goldfinch and J. B. Pratt, from Memphis, passed up yesterday.

Among the receipts yesterday from above was a large containing 5,000 fire-brick.

The Mollie Gratz and Dove No. 2 are the Madison packets to day at noon.

The Madison is at the city wharf, loading for Tennessee river. She leaves next Saturday evening.

The America is the mail packet for the east this evening.

The painters and other workmen were still engaged on the Frank Pargoud yesterday in decorating her inside work, and we doubt very much whether they got through with their job. Captain Tobin will have to carry them with him.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 17.—The steamer Santiago de Cuba, from Liverpool, being Panama, dates to the 21st. The United States steamship with General Prado, ex-president of Peru aboard, had arrived at Coquimbo, en route to Valparaiso.

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THE BOTTOM RAIL GETTING UNDER.—It is with regret that we note the misfortune which is rapidly losing the great majority that enabled the Convention to prevail at the late election. Not a train passes up the Mobile and Ohio Railroad but bears many of them to Tennessee and Alabama, and the steamer is leaving the counties on the Mississippi river by every steamer passing up, to Missouri, Illinois and other of the States of the great West. We wish the departing steamer to all people to go in their homes, and congratulate our people upon their loss. Those who profess to know inform us that the decrease in Mobile since the middle of November is not less than 100,000, and that we can spare as many more, and then have as many left as we desire.—Aberdeen, Miss., Examiner.

An English newspaper says that this is a paper age. People eat paper, drink paper, talk paper, make their fortunes on paper, and, in consequence, occasionally get them. The paper, the Court, and there is no reason why they should not paper. But a paper foundation is unstable when the decade of adversity comes.

Thirty editors and forty-five reporters were arrested in New York last year. The articles and items of complaint are not given.

COMMERCIAL.

REVIEW OF THE MARKETS.

BOARD OF TRADE BOARDS, LOUISVILLE, KY.

LEADERSHIP.

LEADERSHIP.

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